

Amendments to the claims are as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A patch antenna apparatus comprising:
~~characterized in that~~ a patch electrode is provided on athe top surface of a
dielectric substrate disposed above a first ground-plane portion and is connected
5 to current-feed means;

wherein the first ground-plane portion is arranged above a second
ground-plane portion, which has a larger area than the first ground-plane portion,
with a predetermined distance therebetween; and the first ground-plane portion is
set so as to be excited by the second ground-plane portion at a frequency
10 substantially equal to a frequency at which the patch electrode is excited when
current is fed.

2. (Currently Amended) The patch antenna apparatus according to claim
1, wherein a conductive layer is provided on athe top surface of a circuit board,
15 which has a low-noise amplifier circuit at athe bottom surface side thereof, so as to
serve as the first ground-plane portion.